Appl. No.
Amdt. dated November 19, 2003
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-40.   (Canceled)

41.   (Amended) An electro-mechanical system, the system comprising:

a mechanical stop;

a structural plate disposed relative to the mechanical stop, wherein a side of the structural plate contacts the mechanical stop; and

an actuator, wherein application of a DC voltage to the actuator causes the mechanical stop to move relative to the structural plate from a static position to a displaced position, and wherein removal of the ~~static force~~DC voltage causes a movement of the mechanical stop from the displaced position to the static position, and wherein the movement is sufficient to overcome stiction forces between the structural plate and the mechanical stop.

42.   (Original) The system of claim 41, wherein the movement comprises an oscillation of the mechanical stop.

43.   (Original) The system of claim 42, wherein the oscillation comprises displacement of the mechanical stop from the displaced position passed the static position to an overshoot position and back to the static position.

44.   (Amended) The system of claim 41, the system further comprising a base layer, wherein the structural plate is supported above the ~~substrate~~base layer by a pivot and the mechanical stop is disposed over the base layer.

45.   (Original) The system of claim 44, wherein the actuator is a first actuator, the system further comprising a second actuator, wherein application of a force to the second actuator causes the structural plate to deflect into contact with the mechanical stop.

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46-91. (Canceled)

92.   (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the system comprises an optical routing apparatus comprising a moveable micro-mirror.

93.   (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the mechanical stop is comprised of a material and the movement of the mechanical stop comprises an oscillation having a frequency at or near a resonant frequency, or a harmonic thereof, of the material.